

## **FCC REPORT**

JANUARY – MARCH 2013

### **CRIME & VIOLENCE**

4:30AM - 2/5

NEW MOVEMENT TODAY IN THE DEBATE OVER GUNS IN AMERICA. TWO DEMOCRATS AND TWO REPUBLICANS WILL INTRODUCE A BILL TO CRACK DOWN ON GUN TRAFFICKING. THE LEGISLATION -- WHOSE SPONSORS INCLUDE VIRGINIA REPUBLICAN SCOTT RIGELL AND MARYLAND DEMOCRAT ELIJAH CUMMINGS -- WOULD MAKE IT A FEDERAL CRIME. IT WOULD ALSO IMPOSE TOUGH PENALTIES ON PEOPLE WHO BUY GUNS LEGALLY, BUT GIVE THEM TO PEOPLE BARRED FROM PURCHASING THEM.

5AM - 1/22

AROUND MONTGOMERY COUNTY, A MARYLAND HOUSE COMMITTEE WILL HOLD A HEARING TODAY ON A BILL AIMED AT CLOSING A LOOPHOLE IN MARYLAND'S SEX CRIME LAWS. IT WOULD PROHIBIT SCHOOL EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACTORS OVER 21-YEARS-OLD WHO SUPERVISE MINOR STUDENTS FROM HAVING SEXUAL CONTACT WITH THEM. CURRENT LAW PROHIBITS ONLY "FULL-TIME" EMPLOYEES FROM HAVING SUCH CONTACT.

6AM - 3/20

AROUND THE REGION TODAY, A MARYLAND SENATE COMMITTEE IS EXPECTED TO DISCUSS A "VIOLENCE IN FRONT OF MINORS" BILL. THE MEASURE WOULD INCREASE THE PENALTIES FOR COMMITTING A VIOLENT CRIME IF IT'S DONE WITHIN SIGHT OR EARSHOT OF A CHILD, AGE TWO TO 16. PEOPLE COMMITTING A CRIME NEAR A CHILD COULD RECEIVE AN ENHANCED PENALTY OF UP TO FIVE YEARS IN PRISON. THAT'S IN ADDITION TO ANY SENTENCE GIVEN FOR THE VIOLENT CRIME ITSELF.

6AM - 2/21

A MARYLAND SENATE COMMITTEE COULD VOTE AS SOON AS TODAY ON A BILL THAT WOULD REPEAL THE STATE'S DEATH PENALTY. GOVERNOR MARTIN O'MALLEY HAS CALLED ON LAWMAKERS TO END CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IN MARYLAND. HE SAYS IT'S A COSTLY PRACTICE AND DOESN'T DO MUCH TO DETER VIOLENT CRIME. MARYLAND'S DEATH PENALTY HAS BEEN ON HOLD SINCE 2006, WHEN A COURT RULED THAT LAWMAKERS DID NOT PROPERLY APPROVE THE STATE'S LETHAL INJECTION PROTOCOLS.

12PM - 1/3

D-C LEADERS WILL HOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE LATER THIS AFTERNOON TO TALK ABOUT A MILESTONE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME IN THE CITY. THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT SAYS THERE WERE 88-MURDERS IN THE DISTRICT IN 20-12. THAT'S THE LOWEST NUMBER ON RECORD SINCE 19-61. POLICE ALSO SAY THE NUMBER OF HOMICIDES IS DROPPING FASTER THAN THE NATIONAL AVERAGE..

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

5AM - 3/1

A STREET IN D.C. IS BEING NAMED AFTER A FORMER AT-LARGE MEMBER OF THE D.C. COUNCIL. A STREET-NAMING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD THIS MORNING FOR HILDA MASON. SHE DIED IN 2007, AT THE AGE OF 91. MASON WAS AN OUTSPOKEN ADVOCATE OF HOME RULE. SHE FOUGHT FOR STRONG EDUCATION, AND WORKED TO HELP LOW-INCOME RESIDENTS. MAYOR VINCENT GRAY IS SCHEDULED TO SPEAK AT TODAY'S EVENT. IT WILL BE HELD AT THE INTERSECTION OF ROXANNA AND NORTHGATE ROADS, NORTHWEST.

6AM - 1/30

MARYLAND GOVERNOR MARTIN O'MALLEY DELIVERS HIS STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TODAY. THIS YEAR'S SPEECH WILL BE INTERACTIVE. RESIDENTS CAN SUBMIT QUESTIONS TO THE GOVERNOR, IEUTENANT GOVERNOR, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF O'MALLEY'S ADMINISTRATION THROUGH THE INTERNET AND TWITTER. WE HAVE A LINK AT W-J-L-A DOT-COM.

6AM - 2/28

THERE WILL BE A NEWS CONFERENCE TODAY TO PUSH MARYLAND LAWMAKERS TO PUT A FULL-TIME SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER IN EVERY PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE STATE. STATE COMPTROLLER PETER FRANCHOT, LAWMAKERS, POLICE, PARENTS, AND RETIRED EDUCATORS WILL PUSH THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO PASS A BILL REQUIRING SUCH OFFICERS IN SCHOOL. THE GROUP SAYS SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS PROVIDE A SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR CHILDREN.

6AM - 3/1

CHECKING NEWS AROUND THE REGION... VIRGINIA GOVERNOR BOB MCDONNELL WILL BE GOING ON A TRADE MISSION TO ASIA THIS SPRING. THE GOVERNOR ANNOUNCED HE WILL TRAVEL TO CALIFORNIA, CHINA, HONG KONG, AND JAPAN IN APRIL, AFTER HE HAS REVIEWED ROUGHLY 900-BILLS PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE 16-DAY TRIP IS EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE IN APRIL.

6AM - 3/28

TODAY D.C. MAYOR VINCENT GRAY AND D.C. COUNCIL MEMBERS WILL BRIEF REPORTERS ON THE MAYOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 20-14. THE CITY HAS RUN UP A 417-MILLION DOLLAR BUDGET SURPLUS. THAT PUTS THE MAYOR IN A STRONG POSITION TO TACKLE A NUMBER OF POLICY GOALS.

6PM - 1/31

IF YOU LIVE IN THE DISTRICT, YOUR D-C INCOME TAX REFUND COULD BE LESS THAN YOU EXPECTED. THAT'S IF YOU HAVE UNPAID TAXES OR CHILD SUPPORT, AMONG OTHER THINGS. IT'S PART OF A MEASURE PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL LAST YEAR. THE DEDUCTION WON'T COME AS A SURPRISE. IF YOU OWE MONEY, A LETTER WILL BE SENT TO YOU EXPLAINING HOW MUCH WAS TAKEN OUT AND WHY.

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE

4:30AM - 1/2

HUNDREDS OF D-C AREA RESIDENTS TOOK ADVANTAGE OF A PROGRAM TO HELP KEEP DRUNK DRIVERS OFF THE ROAD. THE WASHINGTON REGIONAL ALCOHOL PROGRAM SAYS NEARLY TWO-THOUSAND PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN THE SOBER-RIDE PROGRAM BETWEEN DECEMBER 14TH AND EARLY TUESDAY MORNING. NEARLY 400-PEOPLE USED THE SERVICE ON NEW YEAR'S EVE ALONE.

4:30AM - 1/23

THOSE CONVICTED OF DRIVING DRUNK WITH A CHILD IN THE CAR ARE FACING STIFFER PENALTIES IN MARYLAND. THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE WILL HEAR A BILL THIS AFTERNOON THAT WOULD REQUIRE DRIVERS TO HAVE THEIR SOBRIETY ELECTRONICALLY VERIFIED EACH TIME THEY ATTEMPT TO START THEIR VEHICLE. CURRENT LAW ONLY REQUIRES AN IGNITION INTERLOCK DEVICE WHEN THE DRUNK DRIVER HAS A BLOOD ALCOHOL CONTENT OF POINT 1-5. THE PROPOSED BILL WOULD LOWER THAT TO POINT ZERO EIGHT.

5AM - 3/18

SEVEN IS ON YOUR SIDE... WITH A MAJOR MILESTONE IN A SYSTEM DESIGNED TO PREVENT PATIENTS FROM ABUSING PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IN VIRGINIA. THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS SAYS ITS DATABASE IS EXPECTED TO RECEIVE MORE THAN ONE MILLION REQUESTS THIS YEAR. ABOUT 30-PERCENT OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS IN THE COMMONWEALTH USE THE DATABASE TO CHECK PATIENTS' PRESCRIPTION DRUG RECORDS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY'RE ABUSING THE SYSTEM.

## HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

4:30AM - 1/14

PETS DISPLACED BY SUPERSTORM SANDY MAKE THEIR WAY TO THE D-C AREA TODAY. THE WASHINGTON ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE WILL BE GETTING DOGS AND CATS FROM TEMPORARY SHELTERS IN NEW YORK. THE ANIMALS WERE ABANDONED, SURRENDERED BY OWNERS, OR FOUND AS STRAYS. A REPRESENTATIVE SAYS AFTER THE ANIMALS ARE EVALUATED THEY LOOK FORWARD TO FINDING SUITABLE HOMES FOR THEM.

4:30AM - 2/25

FAIRFAX COUNTY IS WORKING TO GET A BETTER IDEA OF THE HOMELESS POPULATION IN THE COUNTY BY USING GEO TRACKING TECHNOLOGY. RIGHT NOW, VOLUNTEERS ARE CONDUCTING INTERVIEWS AND TAKING PICTURES OF THE HOMELESS. COUNTY OFFICIALS HOPE THE PROFILES WILL HELP THEM DELIVER BETTER SERVICES TO THE HOMELESS AND GET MORE PEOPLE IN HOUSING.

5AM - 1/31

THIS EVENING, HUNDREDS OF VOLUNTEERS WILL BEGIN COUNTING THE D-C AREA'S HOMELESS POPULATION AT AREA SHELTERS. ACCORDING TO LAST YEAR'S COUNT, THE HOMELESS POPULATION IN THE REGION REMAINED ESSENTIALLY UNCHANGED FROM 20-11 TO 20-12. THE COUNT -- TAKEN ONCE A YEAR -- IS CONSIDERED A CRITICAL TO MEASURING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL SERVICES TO THE HOMELESS.

5AM - 2/21

PROPERTY OWNERS IN ARLINGTON COUNTY COULD SEE THEIR TAXES RISE. THE COUNTY MANAGER UNVEILED A ONE-BILLION DOLLAR BUDGET PROPOSAL ON WEDNESDAY. IT RECOMMENDS A THREE-POINT TWO CENT REAL ESTATE TAX HIKE. COUNTY MANAGER BARBARA DONNELLAN SAYS THE INCREASE IS NEEDED TO ACCOMMODATE THE SCHOOL SYSTEM'S GROWING POPULATION.

6PM - 2/13

METRO OFFICIALS WILL VOTE TOMORROW ON A PROPOSAL THAT WOULD MAKE LAND IT OWNS AVAILABLE TO THE F-B-I. THE PROPERTY WHICH IS ROUGHLY 80 ACRES IS LOCATED IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. IF APPROVED BY THE TRANSIT AUTHORITY, THE PROPOSAL WOULD ALLOW THE SITE TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE F-B-I FOR A NEW HEADQUARTERS. THE AGENCY IS SCOUTING LOCATIONS BECAUSE IT'S OUTGROWN IT'S CURRENT NORTHWEST WASHINGTON FACILITY.

## HEALTH & HEALTH CARE

4:30AM - 1/11

WITH A NEW PUSH TO HELP THOSE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROBLEMS. LATER THIS MORNING, D-C MAYOR VINCENT GRAY AND SEVERAL HEALTH OFFICIALS WILL ANNOUNCE the CREATION OF A NEW DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH. IT'LL INTEGRATE TREATMENT AND SERVICES FOR THE MORE THAN 35-THOUSAND DISTRICT RESIDENTS WHO ARE AFFECTED BY MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS.

5AM - 3/13

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1976, A MARYLAND RESIDENT HAS DIED OF RABIES. STATE HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY THEY DON'T KNOW HOW THE PERSON WAS EXPOSED TO THE RABIES VIRUS. THEY SAY THE VICTIM WAS AN ADULT, AND THAT THE INFECTION OCCURRED IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS. BUT OFFICIALS ARE NOT RELEASING ANY FURTHER INFORMATION, TO PROTECT THE PERSON'S PRIVACY.

6AM - 1/3

NOW TO THE DEBATE OVER GUNS IN AMERICA... A MARYLAND TASK FORCE STUDYING FIREARMS ACCESS BY MENTALLY ILL RESIDENTS RELEASED ITS REPORT. THE PANEL RECOMMENDS WEAPONS BE SEIZED IF A LICENSED HEALTH CARE PROVIDER, EDUCATOR, OR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, BELIEVES A PERSON POSES A THREAT. THE GROUP ALSO RECOMMENDED PSYCHOLOGISTS, PHYSICIANS, AND SOCIAL WORKERS BE MANDATED TO REPORT SUCH INFORMATION TO POLICE.

6AM - 3/28

ABORTION RIGHTS SUPPORTERS PLAN TO DELIVER THOUSANDS OF PUBLIC COMMENTS OPPOSING VIRGINIA'S NEW ABORTION CLINIC REGULATIONS TO THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH. THE BOARD PLANS TO TAKE A FINAL VOTE ON THE NEW REGULATIONS ON APRIL 12TH. THE NEW RULES REQUIRE ALL ABORTION CLINICS TO MEET THE SAME BUILDING STANDARDS AS NEWLY-CONSTRUCTED HOSPITALS. OPPONENTS SAY MOST OF THE STATE'S EXISTING CLINICS WOULD BE PUT OUT OF BUSINESS.

12PM - 2/12

ALSO NEW THIS NOON, MORE THAN 40 STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA ARE BEING TREATED FOR BACTERIAL MENINGITIS. ONE STUDENT WAS DIAGNOSED WITH THE INFECTION, AND 47 OTHERS WHO HAD DIRECT CONTACT WITH THAT STUDENT RECEIVED ANTIBIOTICS AS A PRECAUTION. HEALTH OFFICIALS AT U-V-A SAY THE INFECTED STUDENT IS RECOVERING.

5PM - 2/7

USING ANY KIND OF TOBACCO COULD SOON DISQUALIFY YOU FROM FINDING A JOB, AT LEAST IN SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA. THAT'S WHERE MOUNTAIN STATES HEALTH ALLIANCE SAYS IT WILL IMPLEMENT A NEW POLICY NEXT MONTH - TO NOT HIRE ANY TOBACCO USERS. A COMPANY SPOKESPERSON SAYS THEY ARE TRYING TO SET AN EXAMPLE, SAYING TOBACCO HAS NO PLACE IN A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE.

5PM - 2/15

IT'S A SOBERING STATISTIC. MORE SOLDIERS COMMITTED SUICIDE THAN DIED IN COMBAT LAST YEAR. AND NOW NEW EFFORTS ARE UNDER WAY AT WALTER REED MEDICAL CENTER TO TREAT DEPRESSION. RESEARCHERS ARE TESTING NEW BRAIN SCAN IMAGERY TO SEE IF THEY CAN COME UP WITH MORE EFFECTIVE ANTI-DEPRESSION TREATMENT FOR SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS.



## RACIAL, ETHIC, RELIGIOUS & SEX

4:30AM - 1/22

A DAY AFTER WASHINGTON CELEBRATED THE START OF THEIR SECOND TERM, PRESIDENT OBAMA, VICE PRESIDENT BIDEN, AND THEIR WIVES WILL HEAD TO THE NATIONAL CATHEDRAL THIS MORNING FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURAL PRAYER SERVICE. THE EVENT WILL INCLUDE PRAYERS, READINGS, BLESSINGS, AND HYMNS DELIVERED BY RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

4:30AM - 3/14

NOW TO THE DEBATE OVER GUN VIOLENCE. SEVERAL RELIGIOUS LEADERS, LAWMAKERS AND VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE WILL GATHER AT THE WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL TONIGHT TO KICK OFF A FOUR DAY EVENT CALLED "GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION SABBATH WEEKEND." THE EVENT IS DESIGNED TO DISCUSS WHAT RELIGIOUS LEADERS CAN DO TO HELP PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE. WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL IS URGING HUNDREDS OF OTHER CHURCHES TO TAKE PART IN THE EVENT FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE LOCATIONS.

5AM - 1/2

MEMBERS OF THE WESTBORO BAPTIST CHURCH PLAN TO PROTEST THIS MORNING AT THE CIRCUIT COURT HOUSE IN ANNAPOLIS. THE CONTROVERSIAL GROUP IS OPPOSED TO MARYLAND'S NEW LAW, WHICH LEGALIZES SAME SEX MARRIAGE. THE PROTEST IS SCHEDULED FROM 7:30 TO 9:30 A-M. ANNAPOLIS POLICE ARE URGING DRIVERS TO AVOID THE AREA BECAUSE DETOURS AND STREET CLOSURES ARE POSSIBLE.

5AM - 1/10

D-C MAYOR VINCENT GRAY IS FLOATING A CONTROVERSIAL IDEA. HE SAYS SHOULD THE REDSKINS MOVE BACK TO D-C -- AS IS PROPOSED -- THE TEAM SHOULD EITHER CHANGE ITS NAME, OR DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF DOING THAT. THE REDSKINS NAME HAS BEEN UNDER FIRE FOR DECADES FOR BEING A RACIAL SLUR. TEAM OWNERS HAVE RESISTED THE CHANGE. GRAY SAYS OTHER TEAMS -- INCLUDING THE WASHINGTON BULLETS -- HAVE GOTTEN RID OF OFFENSIVE NAMES AND OR MASCOTS.

6AM - 1/3

THIS MORNING, FEDERAL OFFICIALS UNVEIL THE RESULTS OF A MAJOR OPERATION THAT IDENTIFIED AND RESCUED SEXUALLY EXPLOITED CHILDREN WORLDWIDE. A NEWS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT HEADQUARTERS IN SOUTHWEST D.C.

OFFICIALS ALSO PLAN TO ASK FOR THE PUBLIC'S HELP IN A NUMBER OF UNSOLVED CASES INVOLVING THE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN.

6AM - 1/22

AROUND MONTGOMERY COUNTY... A HEARING AIMED AT CLOSING A LOOPHOLE IN A MARYLAND SEX CRIMES LAW WILL BE TAKING PLACE TODAY. THE NEW LAW WOULD RESTRICT SCHOOL EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACTORS OVER THE AGE OF 21 WHO SUPERVISE STUDENTS--FROM HAVING ANY SEXUAL CONTACT WITH THEM. UNDER THE CURRENT LAW--ONLY "FULL TIME" EMPLOYEES ARE PROHIBITED FROM SUCH CONTACT.

## Employment & Economy

4:30AM - 2/19

THREE BIG NAMES IN MARYLAND WILL HOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE TODAY TO URGE CONGRESS TO FIND A WAY TO AVOID THE SEQUESTER. IT WILL TAKE EFFECT MARCH FIRST, UNLESS ACTION IS TAKEN. MONTGOMERY COUNTY EXECUTIVE IKE LEGGETT, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY EXECUTIVE RUSHERN BAKER, AND HOWARD COUNTY EXECUTIVE KEN ULMAN WILL SPEAK TO REPORTERS. THEY WARN, THE SEQUESTER WOULD HAVE A DAMAGING IMPACT ON THE MARYLAND ECONOMY.

5AM - 2/14

UP TO ONE-POINT-SEVEN MILLION NEW RESIDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO FLOOD THE D.C. AREA WITHIN THE NEXT THREE DECADES. THAT'S THE FINDING OF A STUDY BY THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS. OFFICIALS SAY MOST OF THE GROWTH WOULD BE IN D.C.'S INNER SUBURBS.

5AM - 2/19

A TOP ARLINGTON COUNTY OFFICIAL PLANS TO CUT ABOUT 50 COUNTY POSITIONS. COUNTY MANAGER BARBARA DONNELLAN SAYS THE CUTS WILL REDUCE COSTS FOR NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET. SHE SAYS 20-EMPLOYEES HAVE ACCEPTED EARLY RETIREMENT PACKAGES ALREADY AND EMPLOYEES WITH ELIMINATED POSITIONS MAY BE MOVED TO OTHER VACANT JOBS.

5PM - 1/11

ROCKY GAP WILL SOON BE DOUBLING ITS STAFF THANKS TO THE ADDITION OF A CASINO AT THE WESTERN MARYLAND RESORT. THE CASINO WILL OPEN IN JUNE WITH ABOUT 550 SLOT MACHINES AND TEN TABLE GAMES. A JOB FAIR WILL BE HELD LATER THIS MONTH AS THE COMPANY PLANS TO HIRE ABOUT 100 DEALERS.

5PM - 2/7

USING ANY KIND OF TOBACCO COULD SOON DISQUALIFY YOU FROM FINDING A JOB, AT LEAST IN SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA. THAT'S WHERE MOUNTAIN STATES HEALTH ALLIANCE SAYS IT WILL IMPLEMENT A NEW POLICY NEXT MONTH - TO NOT HIRE ANY TOBACCO USERS. A COMPANY SPOKESPERSON SAYS THEY ARE TRYING TO SET AN EXAMPLE, SAYING TOBACCO HAS NO PLACE IN A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE.

## EDUCATION

5AM - 1/7

STUDENTS MAY NOT BE THE ONLY ONES RECEIVING GRADES TO MEASURE THEIR PROGRESS. VIRGINIA GOVERNOR BOB MCDONNELL IS PUSHING FOR A LETTER GRADING SYSTEM AS A WAY TO EVALUATE SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE STATE. HE SAYS THE PLAN WILL REPLACE THE CURRENT SYSTEM -- WHICH HE SAYS IS CONFUSING. THOSE WHO OPPOSE THE PLAN SAY IT OVERLOOKS FACTORS LIKE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ISSUES AND WILL STIGMATIZE LOW PERFORMING SCHOOLS.

5AM - 3/14

CHECKING NEWS AROUND MONTGOMERY COUNTY... A NEW REPORT SHOWS LARGER PERFORMANCE GAPS AT SOME PUBLIC SCHOOLS. This HAS BEEN AN ONGOING PROBLEM FOR THE SCHOOL SYSTEM. AND NOW, A NEW REPORT BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT SHOWS WIDER GAPS IN SOME AREAS, INCLUDING PERFORMANCE ON A-P EXAMS AND THE S-A-T'S. THE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT SAID THE SYSTEM IS SEEKING ADDITIONAL FUNDING AIMED AT HELPING TO REDUCE THE GAPS.

6PM - 1/9

TODAY VIRGINIA GOVERNOR BOB MCDONNELL ANNOUNCED WHO WILL TAKE PART IN A NEWLY CREATED PANEL TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF STUDENTS AND TEACHERS IN THEIR CLASSROOMS. THE GROUP WILL REVIEW SCHOOL POLICIES AND IDENTIFY FUNDING CHALLENGES. THE 45 MEMBER PANEL INCLUDES PEOPLE FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT, EDUCATION AND THE FATHER OF A VIRGINIA TECH STUDENT KILLED IN THE 2007 SHOOTING. THE FIRST MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY.

## FAMILY ISSUES

5AM - 2/18

SEVEN IS ON YOUR SIDE THIS MORNING... WITH A STUDY THAT COULD HELP CURB AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR IN CHILDREN. THE JOURNAL OF PEDIATRICS WILL PUBLISH RESEARCH THAT SUGGESTS -- WHEN PARENTS SWITCHED TO EDUCATIONAL SHOWS LIKE "SEASME STREET" INSTEAD OF MORE VIOLENT PROGRAMMING --THEIR KIDS WERE LESS LIKELY TO BE AGGRESSIVE. THE STUDY FOUND THAT BOYS FROM LOW INCOME HOMES SEEMED TO EXPERIENCE THE MOST SHORT TERM BENEFIT FROM THE SWITCH.

5AM - 3/20

SEVEN ON YOUR SIDE NOW, A GOVERNMENT SURVEY OF PARENTS FINDS, ONE IN 50 U.S. SCHOOL CHILDREN HAS AUTISM. THAT SURPASSES ANOTHER FEDERAL ESTIMATE FOR THE DISORDER. HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY THE NEW NUMBER DOESN'T MEAN AUTISM IS HAPPENING MORE OFTEN. BUT IT DOES SUGGEST, DOCTORS ARE DIAGNOSING AUTISM MORE FREQUENTLY, ESPECIALLY IN CHILDREN WITH Milder PROBLEMS.

6AM - 3/20

IT'S A MOVE THAT COULD EFFECT THOUSANDS OF PARENTS ACROSS MARYLAND. EARLIER TODAY, THE STATE SENATE APPROVED A SMOKING BAN IN VEHICLES THAT TRANSPORT CHILDREN AGED EIGHT AND UNDER. VIOLATORS WOULD FACE A FIFTY-DOLLAR FINE. THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES WILL NOW CONSIDER A SIMILAR BILL. THE IDEA HAS COME UP BEFORE. LAST YEAR, THE SMOKING BAN BILL PASSED THE SENATE BUT DIED IN A HOUSE COMMITTEE.

6PM - 3/20

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## ELDERLY & AGING

12PM - 3/19

WOMEN IN THE U.S. ARE MORE LIKELY THAN MEN TO FEEL WORRIED, NERVOUS, OR ANXIOUS. THAT'S ACCORDING TO A NEW STUDY BY THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL. 22-PERCENT OF WOMEN SURVEYED SAID THEY FELT STRESSED, DAILY OR WEEKLY, COMPARED TO 16-PERCENT OF MEN. THE STUDY ALSO FINDS YOUNGER AND MIDDLE-AGE MEN AND WOMEN FELT THE MOST WORRIED. ADULTS AGE 75 AND OLDER WERE A LITTLE HAPPIER, AND LESS STRESSED.

5PM - 2/13

OLDER WOMEN WHO EXERCISE BETWEEN TWO TO FOUR TIMES A WEEK SEE GREATER HEALTH BENEFITS THAN THOSE WHO WORK OUT SIX TIMES A WEEK. THAT'S ACCORDING TO A NEW STUDY. RESEARCHERS TOOK 72 WOMEN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 60 AND 74 AND DIVIDED THEM INTO THREE FREQUENCY GROUPS. THOSE WHO EXERCISED BETWEEN TWO TO FOUR TIMES A WEEK INCREASED THEIR ENERGY AND CALORIE BURN.

6PM - 1/18

NOW TO THE FLU OUTBREAK. A SHORT TIME AGO WE LEARNED A CHILD DIED IN MARYLAND FROM FLU-RELATED ISSUES.

ALSO TODAY, THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL REVEALED THE NUMBER OF OLDER PEOPLE HOSPITALIZED WITH THE FLU HAS RISEN SHARPLY. THE GOVERNMENT SAYS 90-PERCENT OF FLU-RELATED DEATHS ARE AMONG THE ELDERLY. DOCTORS SAY IT'S STILL NOT TOO LATE TO GET A FLU SHOT. ALSO, HEALTH OFFICIALS ARE ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO STAY HOME FROM WORK OR SCHOOL TO AVOID SPREADING THE VIRUS.